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# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

KAREN M. WILLIAMS U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

Criminal No. 12- 227 (THR)

HENRY RUFFIN

18 U.S.C. §§ 1512(a)(2)(C), 1512(k), and 2

## **INDICTMENT**

The Grand Jury in and for the District of New Jersey, sitting at Camden, charges:

#### COUNT 1

[18 U.S.C. § 1512(k) - Conspiracy to Tamper with a Witness]

## **Background**

- 1. At all times relevant to this Indictment:
  - a. Defendant HENRY RUFFIN was a resident of Sicklerville, New Jersey.
- b. R.R., a co-conspirator not charged as a defendant herein, was a resident of Lindenwold, New Jersey.
- c. I.R. was a resident of Atlantic City, New Jersey. I.R. was related to defendant HENRY RUFFIN and co-conspirator R.R.
- d. D.H. was a resident of Atlantic City, New Jersey. D.H. knew and was friendly with I.R.
- e. S.S. was a resident of Atlantic City, New Jersey and was related to I.R. S.S.'s father was co-conspirator R.R.
  - f. A.Z. was a resident of Atlantic City, New Jersey and was related to I.R.

- g. Victim #1 was a resident of Atlantic City, New Jersey and had a child with D.H.
  - h. Victim #5 was a resident of Atlantic City, New Jersey.
- i. The Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI") was a member of the Executive Branch of the United States, responsible for investigating various violations of federal law, including Hobbs Act robbery, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951(a) and kidnapping, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1201.

#### The Assault

- 2. On or about March 23, 2011, D.H. met with I.R. in the courtyard area of the housing complex on North Maryland Avenue, Atlantic City, New Jersey, known as the "Back Maryland" area of Atlantic City, to talk to I.R. about a dispute between I.R. and Victim #1. After a brief conversation, D.H. viciously assaulted I.R., knocking I.R. unconscious and robbing I.R. of United States currency. When I.R. regained consciousness, D.H. assaulted I.R. again. As a result of the assault, I.R. was treated at the Atlantic City Medical Center for a possible concussion and facial lacerations.
- 3. After I.R. was released from the hospital, S.S. and A.Z. visited I.R. During the visit, I.R. told S.S. that D.H. assaulted him.

## The Retaliation

4. To retaliate for the vicious assault on I.R., S.S. planned to enter Victim #1's house and assault and rob Victim #1 of illegal drugs and money, some of which Victim #1 earned from distributing illegal drugs.

5. On or about March 26, 2011, S.S., A.Z., and D.H. entered Victim #1's house and duct-taped Victim #1 and four other women who were present, identified herein as Victims #2, #3, #4 and #5. During the robbery, Victim #5 recognized S.S.'s voice. As a result, S.S., A.Z., and D.H. took Victim #5 from the residence in Atlantic City, New Jersey and drove Victim #5 to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where she was shot in the head and killed. After being shot, Victim #5's body was dumped in the Schuykill River.

## The Investigation

- 6. During the course of the investigation into the Hobbs Act robbery of Victim #1 and the kidnapping of Victim #5, on several occasions in or about April 2011, Special Agents of the FBI interviewed, and attempted to interview, I.R. regarding the March 23, 2011 assault and the March 26, 2011 Hobbs Act robbery.
- 7. On or about April 19, 2011, Victim #5's body was recovered from the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 8. On or about July 30, 2011, in Atlantic County, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, defendant

#### HENRY RUFFIN

did knowingly and intentionally conspire and agree with R.R. and others to use, and attempt to use, physical force and the threat of physical force against a person, to wit, I.R., with the intent to hinder, delay, and prevent the communication to law enforcement officers, that is, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, of information relating to the commission of Federal offenses, namely, kidnapping, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1201 and Hobbs Act robbery, a

violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951(a), contrary to Title 18, United States Code, Section 1512(a)(2)(C).

## Object of the Conspiracy

9. It was the object of the conspiracy to prevent I.R. from cooperating with law enforcement officials in the investigation and prosecution of the kidnapping and murder of Victim #5 and the Hobbs Act robbery at Victim #1's house.

## Manner and Means of the Conspiracy

- 10. It was part of the conspiracy that on or about July 30, 2011, defendant HENRY RUFFIN and co-conspirator R.R. entered, without the owner's permission, the house where I.R. was staying.
- 11. It was further part of the conspiracy that upon entering the house, defendant HENRY RUFFIN and co-conspriator R.R. confronted I.R. and yelled, in substance and in part, "What the fuck are you saying," and "What are you telling the FBI?"
- 12. It was further part of the conspiracy that co-conspirator R.R. grabbed I.R. around the throat and started choking him. Co-conspirator R.R. pushed I.R. up against the wall and lifted I.R.'s body off the floor by I.R.'s neck while yelling at I.R. to keep his mouth shut.
- 13. It was further part of the conspiracy that defendant HENRY RUFFIN and coconspirator R.R. eventually took I.R. from his house to S.S.'s house.
- 14. It was further part of the conspiracy that defendant HENRY RUFFIN repeatedly stated that he was going to kill I.R. Defendant HENRY RUFFIN also said that if he found out I.R. talked to the FBI, defendant HENRY RUFFIN was going to kill I.R.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1512(k).

#### **COUNT 2**

[18 U.S.C. § 1512(a)(2)(C) - Witness Tampering]

- 1. Paragraphs 1 through 7 and 9 through 13 of Count 1 of this Indictment are hereby realleged and incorporated as if set forth at length herein.
- 2. On or about July 30, 2011, in Atlantic County, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, defendant

#### HENRY RUFFIN

knowingly used, and attempted to use, physical force and the threat of physical force against a person, to wit, I.R., with the intent to hinder, delay, and prevent the communication to a law enforcement officer, that is, an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, of information relating to the commission of Federal offenses, these are, kidnapping, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1201, and Hobbs Act robbery, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951(a).

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1512(a)(2)(C), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

A TRUE BILL N

FOREPERSON

PAUL J. FISHMAN

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY** 

CASE NUMBER:

United States District Court District of New Jersey UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
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INDICTMENT FOR

18 U.S.C. § 1512(a)(2)(C) 18 U.S.C. § 1512(k) 18 U.S.C. § 2

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A True Bill,

Foreperson

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